

"WHAT IS YOUR IDEA OF HELL?"

Dr. Abbott Says: "It's Redemptive Punishment, or Death, to Sinners."

"NOT AN ENDLESS FIRE."

"The Word 'Fire,' Scripturally Used, Does Not Symbolize Endless Torment."

"IT IS EXTINCTION OF BEING."

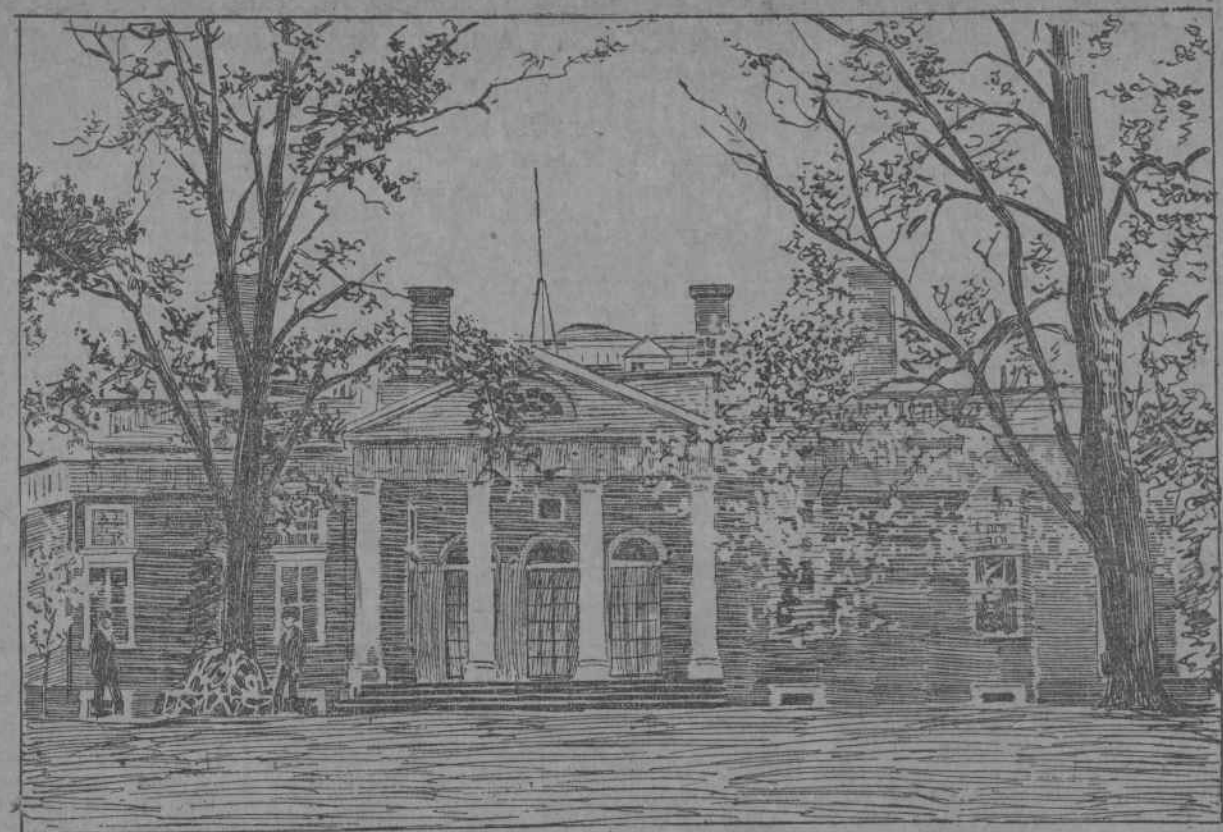
Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst and Dr. Madison C. Peters Discuss the Words of the Brooklyn Divine, Concurring Partly in His Views

"What is your idea of hell?"

That question was propounded to Dr. Lyman Abbott and answered by him on Sunday night at Plymouth Church, in Brooklyn, in a fashion to set the orthodox a-thinking.

"My conception of hell," said he, "is this: First, the sin that carries with it terrible punishment in this life and in the life to come. The punishment is redemptive, the end of it being the reformation of the offender, and if neither by punishment in this life nor by punishment in the life to come the offender be reformed and brought back to God, then the end of that one is death—that is, extinction of being."

Somebody had sent the question to the



Thomas Jefferson's Old Home at Monticello.

"The wicked shall be turned into hell," he quoted, and then explained: "Not into a place of torment or punishment at all, it is simply that they shall all die."

Dr. Abbott had previously told of the valley of Gehenna, and the warning of Christ to the Pharisees, lest they be cast into the fires of Gehenna, or into "hell fire," as translated in the Bible. He recalled this reference Sunday night, and added:

"It means it was so understood to mean, in my judgment, by the people who heard:

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DR. LYMAN ABBOTT'S IDEA OF HELL.

Dr. Abbott: The word hell in the Bible is used in two very different senses, and the difference is represented in the revised version. It is sometimes used simply to signify the place of the departed, and in the well-known passage, "The wicked shall be turned into hell"—that is, not into a place of torment or punishment at all—it is simply that they will all die. Sometimes it is used to signify a place of destruction. As I explained last Sunday night, in the valley of Gehenna, in the time of Christ, fires were kept burning day and night to destroy the offal of the city. Those fires were known as the fires of Gehenna. Christ, speaking to the Pharisees, warns them lest they be cast into the fires of Gehenna. It is translated in our Bible "hell fire." It means—it was so understood to mean, in my judgment (and you ask me for my judgment), by the people who heard—Beware, lest you become as offal of the universe, to be cast out and destroyed. Fire is never in either the Old Testament or the New Testament, except in the Book of Revelation, as a symbol of torment, always a symbol of destruction.

My conception, then, of hell is this: First, that sin carries with it terrible punishment in this life and in the life to come. That the punishment is redemptive, the end of it being the reformation of the offender, and if neither by punishment in this life nor by punishment in the life to come the offender is reformed and brought back to God, then the end of that one is death—that is, extinction of being.

(Dr. Abbott's exact language in the sermon Sunday night.)

Doctor, and he answered it off-hand. Most of his congregation, which was large and composed mainly of people familiar with the great preacher's liberal construction of the Scriptures, acquiesced in his conception of hell, as they did not long ago in his repudiation of the Jonah and the great fish narrative. But yesterday his utterance gave rise to brisk discussion among the theologians and to some anxious comparisons

Beware lest you become as offal of the universe, to be cast out and destroyed. Fire is never in either the Old Testament or the New Testament, except in the Book of Revelation, used as a symbol of torment, but always as a symbol of destruction."

Evening Wedding at Sherry's. Miss Betty Spiegelberg and Henry Frank were married last evening at Sherry's. The ceremony was performed at 5:30 o'clock by Rev. Gustav Gottlieb, of the Temple Emanuel-EI. The bride, who is a daughter

PARKHURST ON ABBOTT'S DEFINITION.

As I read and understood Dr. Abbott's definition of hell, he said "there is no hell, as such," meaning the hell of the Bible, I suppose. But he added very wisely that "some kind of punishment" will doubtless be meted out to the wicked who do not truly repent. We do not understand the place itself, the manner of punishment, the severity or the leniency of it; all that, of course, none of us know anything about, but there is and always has been in the mind of man an instinctive belief that the impenitent sinner must undergo some sort of punishment in the life to come. This feeling man has had from his primitive days, long before the existence of the Bible, and it is strongly emphasized by the Old as well as the New Testament.

REV. DR. CHARLES PARKHURST,
Pastor Madison Square Presbyterian Church.

between the modern and the ancient ideas on the subject.

Dr. Abbott told also how, in his opinion, the popular misconception of hell had come about. The word "hell," he said, was used in two senses in the revised version.

REV. MADISON C. PETERS ON 'HELL FIRE.'

Where is hell? Anywhere outside of heaven. If hell be only a state, it will be hell all the same. That "there is no peace for the wicked" is a fact founded in the very constitution of man. Sin destroys happiness. The sinner is his own destroyer. He punishes himself. Death makes no change in our moral character. It disengages the soul from the trammels of the body and gives expansion to its powers, but he that was "unjust will be unjust still," though removed from the earth to the world of spirits. The passions and propensities of the soul follow it to eternity, so that even if there were no condemnation from God, still the sinner would be in hell. In this world a man depends upon the state of his mind, and the passions of the soul will accompany it into the next world and form a part of its very being. They will there have the same influence upon our happiness as here. In order that the blind man may enjoy the beauties of the flower garden his eyes must be opened; in order that the deaf man may enjoy the sweet strains of music his ears must be unstopped; in order that the dyspeptic may enjoy a good meal his health must be restored; and so, in order that a man may enjoy the blessings of heaven, he must have his heart changed and be brought into sympathy with God, or else he would feel in heaven like a fish out of water. If there were no day of judgment and no hell, the sinner, continuing the enemy of God, must be lost and wretched. Man carries in his bosom the elements of woe, and the circumstances in which he will be placed will call them into action.

The Scripture hell-fire of torment is not material, but symbolical of mental affliction, which consists in the loss of God, of friends and hope. Dante's poetry, his imagery of brimstone and fire, must not be confused with orthodoxy. Let the memory alone of the impenitent survive and the words of Milton will be true: *And*

Which way I climb is hell; myself am hell.

Memory will be the unquenchable fire and the worm that never dies.

REV. MADISON C. PETERS,
Pastor Bloomingdale Reformed Church.

AHEARN'S BILL HELPS MOTHERS.

Designed to Meet Cases Like Little Rosa Greenstein's.

CHILD STILL IN CUSTODY.

Moneys Now Given to Institutions to Be Turned Over to Parents.

The arrest last Saturday night by Agent Pissaro, of the Gerry Society, of seven-year-old Rosa Greenstein, daughter of Nathan Greenstein, a respectable but unfortunate cigarette manufacturer, of No. 50 Allen street, on the charge that the child was peddling lozenges in Grand street, has served to stimulate public interest in a measure introduced in the State Senate by Senator Ahearn, which has just passed both houses of the Legislature.

It provides that a child committed to an asylum or other charitable or correctional institution may be thereafter returned to the custody of its natural or legal guardian if such guardian is found to be a proper person to have the custody of the child.

The municipality is also directed by the bill to pay to the parent or guardian the \$104 per year that would ordinarily be allotted to the institution from which the child is taken. The money is to be transferred through the Gerry Society.

The Gerry Society, with the Comptroller, is authorized by the bill to make the rules by which the measure is to be regulated, and, besides, the society is empowered to revoke any change of the custody of a child to the institution to which it was originally committed. The bill takes effect immediately.

Very often under the present system mothers are torn from their little children to the injury of both parties, for the lack of a few dollars. The \$2 a week which the city now turns over to these institutions for the care of each child committed would in many instances be an immense boon and avert numerous little domestic tragedies of which the world at large hears nothing.

In proposing his bill in the Senate Senator Ahearn said, among other things:

"The time has come when the great State of New York can afford to enter into a contract with a good mother. I would preserve the unity of the home. I make no attack on the Gerry Society. I realize the vast good done by it. The society, however, has made mistakes. The State of New York has not done enough

SENATE TANGLE IN SIGHT.

If the Latest Republican Plan to Reorganize the Committees Does Not Succeed Legislation May Be Blocked.

Washington, April 12.—The plans for the reorganization of the Senate are proceeding very slowly, and the Republicans are being forced into very uncomfortable quarters. The new Senators are becoming so restless, and old Senators are so determined, that the situation promises to become so acute as to shut off all legislation.

The Republicans in the meantime have hit upon a plan which they think will help them out. It is that the Vice-President be authorized, by resolution, to temporarily fill the vacancies on the committees. By a Senate action he is supposed to do this all the time, but he does not. The party caucus appoints all committees.

There are forty-two Republicans in the Senate, and two more votes would have to be secured to get this resolution through. It is proposed to secure these two votes from the gold Democrats by the promise that a gold Democrat shall take a Democratic vacancy on the Finance Committee. If the two votes cannot be secured it is thought the silence of the gold Democrats

SOME OF IT MIGHT GO TO POOR MOTHERS.

This Table Shows That About \$55,000 a Month from Excise Taxes Is Divided Among the Following Societies for the Board of Children.

Name.	Number of Children in 1896.	Rate of Board.
Mission of the Immaculate Virgin.....	1,006	\$2 per week
Institution of Mercy.....	930	"
Missionary Sisters, Third Order of St. Francis.....	906	"
Dominican Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary.....	572	"
Asylum Sisters of St. Dominic.....	342	"
Hebrew Orphan Asylum of the City of New York.....	34	"
St. Joseph's Asylum.....	84	"
Ladies' Deborah Nursery and Child's Protectory.....	250	"
St. Agatha Home for Children.....	205	"
St. James's Home.....	86	"
Association for the Benefit of Colored Orphans.....	179	"
Amer. Female Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless.....	180	"
Five Points House of Industry.....	308	"
Asylum of St. Vincent de Paul.....	108	"
St. Michael's Home.....	88	"
St. Ann's Home.....	385	"
Association for Benefiting Children and Young Girls.....	105	"
St. Elizabeth's Industrial School.....	70	"

can. That would permit the motion to prevail by a plurality.

The Republicans are hoping almost against hope, though, that a Republican will be elected in Kentucky. If this should come about the Republicans will reorganize on strictly party lines and carry the reorganization clear through. They can do this with the help of Mr. Kyle on committees and Mr. Heidfeldt on Senate officials. The Idaho man is deeply interested

DEMOCRATS TO HONOR JEFFERSON.

William J. Bryan Selected to Toast the Father of Their Creed.

MANY CELEBRATIONS.

The Noblest Democrat of Them All Was Born 154 Years Ago.

BRYAN SPEAKS AT WASHINGTON.

There the Guest of Honor—Single Taxers to Give a Banquet at the Hotel Marlborough To-night.

Celebrations will be held throughout the country to-day to commemorate the one hundred and fifty-fourth anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson. Dinners will be given in Washington, in Brooklyn, in Boston and in many other localities.

It is fitting that William Jennings Bryan should be selected to reply to the toast "Thomas Jefferson" at the Washington banquet at the Metropolitan Hotel. During his campaign Mr. Bryan referred to Jefferson hundreds of times. Jeffersonian democracy was his headline and his guide. He will therefore be well qualified and well prepared to speak eloquently at to-day's banquet, where he is to be the guest of honor.

Four years after Jefferson's death in 1826 there was a notable gathering at the Metropolitan Hotel in Washington, where to-day's banquet will take place. The hotel was then called the Indian Queen Hotel, and the dinner was given in commemoration of Jefferson's birthday.

At this banquet President Andrew Jackson was the guest of honor. Vice-President Calhoun was also present. The dinner to be given to-day will be as nearly as possible an exact copy of that given in 1826. There will be the same dishes, down to the roast venison, of which Jefferson was so fond.

Democratic party leaders have often expressed themselves as being in favor of an annual demonstration in honor of Jefferson's memory. Now that the ball has been set rolling, it is probable that in a few years every Democratic club of any consequence in the United States will toast the

JURY TRIAL STILL SAFE.

Assembly Rejects the Mazet Bill, Which Proposed Abolition of the Popular Right.

Albany, April 12.—The Mazet bill was beaten in the Assembly to-night by a vote of 62 to 60.

Mr. Green, of New York, attacked the bill, declaring it to be unconstitutional, and saying that the spectacle of any Legislature in 1897 attempting to abolish the right of trial by jury was so unusual as to be amazing. Mr. Mazet insisted that the only people benefited by the law as it stood to-day were the rich offenders with a "pull," who could pay able lawyers and stave off justice.

When the vote defeating the measure was announced the Assembly Chamber resounded with applause.

NO OFFICE FOR WANAMAKER.

Refuses to Run for State Treasurer and Will Stay in the Banks.

Philadelphia, April 12.—John Wanamaker this afternoon declined to be a candidate for State Treasurer of Pennsylvania. One reason for his action, he states, is the conclusion reached after full inquiry that the present Legislature will enact a law providing for the payment of interest upon State deposits, and thus correct the most vicious evils in the conduct of the State Treasury.

"The present system," he adds, "of electing a Treasurer to conduct the State Treasury as an adjunct to the State Committee of the Republican party is fraught with incalculable evil. Favorite banks and trust

companies, sometimes especially organized and officered, receive deposits and control State moneys far out of proportion to the capital paid in, and are not subject to any supervision of investments, except under the same power that elects the State Treasurer."

Mr. Wanamaker expresses his preference to use his endeavors to assist the movement for better government by marching in the ranks rather than as a standard bearer, and urges that every effort be used to the end "that a government of the people may supplant the present government of the bosses."

Beardsley Becomes a Catholic.

London, April 12.—Aubrey Beardsley, the artist, has been formally received into the Roman Catholic Church. His health, which has been precarious for a long time past, is now better, and he has gone to the Riviera.

The following are among the current attractions of the Store:

A collection of Antique Tapestries, Ecclesiastical Vestments and other textiles.

Fritel's Conquerors and other important pictures.

Found Us Again.

Among many ordering our \$15 to-measure suits and top coats are customers we had when on Broadway.

They remembered our kind of tailoring. New English cutting system making bad fit impossible—controlled fabrics, not like every other fellow's suit. And—best of all—a year's guarantee or money handed back.

Wish you knew how both new and old patrons are liking this \$15.00 offer. It's unlike the ordinary sort.

15.00 Suit or Top Coat to Measure.

Newest shades Tans, Olives, Slate, Havana Browns, Butters, Top Coats, silk lined, strap buttons.

DO YOU KNOW OF OUR \$4.00 TROUSERS? CUT AS TO STOP THAT BAGGING-AT-KNEES.

Samples and self-measurement rules free.

HARRIS & CO. PRESCOTT BUILDING. S. W. corner Nassau and John sts. Nothing "ready made"—no "furlishings."

THE GORHAM CO., Silversmiths, following its annual custom, invites its patrons and friends to view the new productions in STERLING SILVER, which its workshops have been employed upon during the Winter months. In this exhibition will be found examples of OLD ENGLISH EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FRENCH and COLONIAL AMERICAN reproductions, and some entirely new effects in the treatment of silver with enamel.

Art Rooms, Third Floor. Broadway and 19th St.

Easter Top-Coats.

Our special \$20 silk lined Coverts are the best value offered. Coverts \$10 to \$28. \$15 and upwards, silk lined throughout. Chesterfields \$10 to \$30. From \$16, silk lined and faced to the edge.

Spring Suits in choicest fabrics and colorings, \$12 to \$25.

Six special lines of Easter Neck Dress, from latest importations, are great attractions, made in Imperials, Puffs, New Tucks and Four-in-Hands, 50 cents; value, 75c.

1,000 odd Cones, 25 cents each; were 50c, 75c and \$1.

Hats and Shoes in correct shapes, none better in quality. Everything for men's wear.

A Raymond & Co. MEN'S OUTFITTERS. NASSAU AND FULTON STS.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your idea: they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Dent, P.I., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their \$1,500 prize offer and new list of 1,000 inventions wanted.

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Now 14.50 UPPER AND LOWER SETS OF TEETH WITHOUT PAIN. DENTISTS. We find by making large quantities of teeth we can afford to make them for \$3.00, and at this price we make a living profit. Therefore we will continue to make a full set for \$3.00. Other work done correspondingly cheap and absolutely painless. Estimates given on fillings and other work FREE. Remember we extract or fill teeth without ANY PAIN WHATSOEVER. Written guarantee for 10 years with all work. We are reasonable. American Dental Parlor, 18 West 14th Street, Room 8 to 10. Bldg. and Sunday 10 to 4. Branch: 1256 Chestnut Street Philadelphia.

PEGAMOID

THE THROUGH SLEEPING CAR SERVICE is to be re-established between New York and Chicago, via the D. & W. and Nickel Plate roads on April 13, 1897. An elegant Pullman car will be attached to train No. 7, leaving New York 7:30 p. m. each day, and will arrive at Chicago at 9:00 p. m. following day. Dining car attached at Buffalo at 7:00 a. m. For space and all information call on ticket agents D. & W. R. R.—ADVT.